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**COMMISSIONER STARKS AND CBC CHAIR STEVEN HORSFORD ADVOCATE FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE AFFORDABLE CONNETIVITY PROGRAM**

WASHINGTON, February 12, 2024—On Friday, February 9, 2024, FCC Commissioner Geoffrey Starks and Congressman Steven Horsford (NV-04), Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, visited the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority to hear from residents and state and local officials about the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)'s positive impact on closing the digital divide and the need for Congress to continue the program.

The event was held in Las Vegas, Nevada. It featured remarks from officials including the Executive Director of the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority and the Director of the Nevada Governor's Office of Science, Innovation & Technology to discuss the critical importance of ACP to the nearly 275,000 Nevadan households currently enrolled in the program and the more than 23 million households enrolled nationwide.

Commisioner Starks issued the following statement about the event:

“About a year ago today, Chair Horsford and I spoke with families and state and local leaders at the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority to highlight the importance of broadband adoption and expand awareness of the Affordable Connectivity Program. With ACP's future now in doubt, we went back to understand the impact. Together, we listened as members of the public shared what ACP meant to them and how access to the internet thanks to ACP has improved their day-to-day lives. We also heard about the challenges that Nevadan families will face in maintaining connectivity if ACP sunsets. I'd like to thank Chair Horsford for standing on the front line of the effort to continue funding ACP and ensure that the significant gains we have made in closing the digital divide are not lost. The harms that millions of Americans will face in the absence of ACP are real. For them, and for a brighter future for our country, we must act.”

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*This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).*